

its prostate cancer education initiative with a statewide health event held at 13 separate sites. At these sites, individuals and families will be able to get information and talk to representatives of the Gallo Center, local health departments, and other officials.

In the fight against prostate cancer, it is vitally important that we concentrate on education and screening. Catching the disease early drastically improves the chances of surviving, and lowers the need for the expensive treatments used during later stages of the cancer.

For those who are diagnosed with prostate cancer, the Gallo Center is New Jersey's only specialized prostate health resource at a National Cancer Institute—the Cancer Institute of New Jersey. The Center is also an advanced research facility that transforms laboratory discoveries into clinical practice.

While I am glad that New Jersey can rely on such a world-class facility for prostate cancer research and treatment, I am even more pleased to learn of the Gallo Center's educational and outreach efforts. Prostate cancer is a disease that disproportionately affects elderly men and African-Americans, and it is vital that health care professionals reach out to these populations to inform them of the warning signs of the disease.

Again, let me applaud the Gallo Center's efforts to inform and educate New Jersey's citizens about this devastating disease.

INTRODUCING JOHN'S LAW

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2003

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, in the coming months we will be marking the third anniversary of the tragic death of one of my constituents. U.S. Navy Ensign John Elliott, who had just received his commission to Naval Flight School in Pensacola, Florida, was struck and killed by a drunk driver on July 22, 2000. The accident instantly killed Elliott and seriously injured his passenger, Kristen Hohenwarter.

Sadly, it was later discovered that the driver responsible for Elliott's death had been arrested for drunken driving earlier that evening. Elliott was on his way home for his mother's birthday party when he crossed paths with the intoxicated driver.

Nearly three years after that tragic accident, his parents continue the fight to save other families from the grief they have endured. Lobbying the New Jersey State Legislature, the Elliotts saw to fruition the drafting, passage and ultimate enactment of John's Law. The law ensures that individuals who pick up an arrested driver sign a document accepting custody. Additionally, it gives State Police the authorization to impound the automobile of an arrested driver for up to 12 hours.

Today, I am introducing a bill expressing the sense of Congress that funding should be made available from the Highway Trust Fund to encourage all states to enact legislation to require law enforcement officers to impound motor vehicles of those charged with driving while intoxicated and to issue responsibility

warnings to those who take custody of suspects driving while intoxicated. The legislation also requires the National Traffic Safety Board to report to Congress on the number and severity of traffic accidents caused by individuals who were released by state and local police hours after being charged with DWI and to make recommendations on the need for states to adopt statutes similar to John's Law.

We are making important strides to eliminate the senseless deaths caused by the lethal mix of alcohol and automobiles. Annual deaths from drinking and driving have decreased from approximately 28,000 in 1980 to 16,068 in 2000. In 1982, 57 percent of all traffic fatalities were alcohol-related. In 2000, that percentage fell to 38 percent. However, much work remains to be done. Each death is a preventable one and I am sure this resolution will go a long way in ensuring deaths like Ensign Elliott's are prevented and families are saved from the pain the Elliotts and other families across the nation have endured.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support this resolution.

IN HONOR OF PHILLIP BURTON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2003

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, twenty years ago today, our Nation lost a fierce and fearless leader—Phillip Burton, a great Member of Congress from San Francisco.

Sometimes profound, often profane, but always passionate, Phillip Burton was a voice for workers, the poor, the elderly, the disabled and a protector of the environment. He turned up the volume of those who could only whisper for help.

Through his work, the world has been endowed with a lasting legacy of gifts—the giant Redwoods, benefits for black lung sufferers, better wages for workers, and better healthcare for the elderly and the disabled.

Phil Burton believed deeply in the integrity of this institution and its democratic principles of disagreement and debate. One of his first areas of interest was the House Committee on UnAmerican Activities and its destructive use of this House to undermine the principles for which it stood. He worked successfully to abolish the Committee.

Expanding on the openness and fairness he desired for the House of Representatives, he worked to ensure meaningful reforms in the House so that junior Members were given early opportunities to share more equally in the workings of the committees.

Phil Burton was a legislative master, creating new park lands and protecting lands throughout the country—literally “from California to the New York island; from the Redwood Forest to the Gulf Stream waters.” The Washington Post ran the headline about his work: “Sun Never Sets on Burton Empire.”

In 1978, Phil Burton championed the most sweeping environmental legislation ever to pass the Congress, tripling the National Trails System, doubling the Wild and Scenic Rivers System and more than doubling the wilder-

ness in national parks. He and the chairman of the Interior Committee, Mo Udall, worked together to protect 100 million acres of land in Alaska, the largest in the nation. Mo Udall's classic description of Phil says it all: “He unscrewed the inscrutable.” He preserved America's natural wonders.

Among Phil's great successes was creation of the nation's first two urban national parks—the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco and Gateway National Recreation Area in New York. The Golden Gate National Recreation Area has become an emerald greenbelt stretching north and south of San Francisco along the Pacific coast.

The jewel at its center is the Presidio. Phil Burton, with one sentence, made it possible for the Presidio to exist as a national park. Years later, Congress created a permanent management entity, the Presidio Trust, to ensure that the Presidio would be preserved in perpetuity as Phil intended.

The “empire” stretched beyond our continental lands to the Territories where Phil sought to bring fairness, cultural harmony and the American Dream to island populations. And he brought them representation in Congress. Congressman ENI FALEOMAVAEGA, who staffed the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs chaired by Phil Burton, is a Member of Congress today because of legislation authored by Phil to ensure representation to the people of America's distant lands.

Phil's mastery extended beyond the legislative arena, and his true artistry was displayed when it came to redistricting. One press account described it as “Phil Burton's contribution to modern art.” For almost three decades, he painted the political landscape of Californians in the House from his palette.

Always central to Phil's success was a strong sense of bipartisanship, which he considered essential. This was evident in his efforts to preserve lands in districts where they formed an economic spine for local communities. By providing worker benefits and working with Republicans and Democrats, success was possible that benefited not only the short-term existence of a community, but the longer-term preservation of the environment. In all of his work, he put the public interest above self-interest, including the self-interests of those who preferred to realize financial gain.

Phil Burton's career took a detour on the road to become Speaker. When Phil lost the race for Majority Leader, Speaker Tip O'Neill said, “I never saw a person take defeat so gracefully . . .” He may have lost the personal battle for Majority Leader, but he was victorious in his broad war to ensure social justice and human dignity for all people.

Phil Burton worked every day of his life to protect this planet, its people and this place where we govern. He was not a man of shallow interest, but a man of deep and abiding commitment to democratic principles.

In his short life, he brought our nation a legacy of accomplishment that will outlast our lifetimes and those of our grandchildren. As enduring and tangible as the monuments he left to us will be our abiding commitment to the principles he held in his heart. Years from now, these generations will not know his name, but they will experience his monumental achievements.

Phil Burton stands as tall as a giant among us and as lasting as the great Redwoods.